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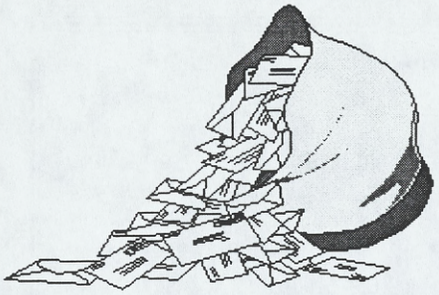

Lambda Letters Project

32599

Vol. 6, No. 6 June, 1998 www.lambdaletters.org LambdaLP@aol.com (916) 965-6851

A Time for Renewed Commitment

"The price of liberty is eternal vigilance."
—Thomas Jefferson

At the end of April, we received the sad news that LIFE Lobby is closing. Its board of directors voted to recommend that the Lobby declare Chapter 7 bankruptcy and go out of business permanently. The board took the action because of a very large debt which the Lobby was unable to repay. The final decision on closing is up to LIFE Lobby's House of Delegates which is scheduled to meet on June 13th. In any case, LIFE Lobby is almost certainly out of business.

The loss of LIFE Lobby is particularly dangerous to our community. It was very visible in the state capital and its loss is bound to be noticed. There has been a widespread collapse of our community's organizations in Sacramento, and it's been well covered in the local media. Legislators have probably read the accounts of these problems. They may well conclude that the l/g/b/t community is a paper tiger that can safely be ignored.

Legislators may renew their efforts to pass legislation permanently banning same-sex marriage,

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LLP Board Implements Membership Dues

At its first meeting of the new fiscal year, the Lambda Letters Project's board of directors came to a difficult but necessary decision to establish suggested membership dues.

While the board continues to welcome all people interested in participating in the Project, it also recognizes that growing financial pressures necessitate the establishment of a long-term financial structure for the Project. "We have enjoyed the luxury of a non-salaried, full-time administrator in Boyce Hinman since the Project's inception. However, Boyce would like to at least partially retire within a couple of years. The board recognizes that there is little chance of finding another administrator to work fifty hours a week without being compensated," said Bob Maxie, the board's newly elected treasurer.

The board wrestled long and hard with its decision, recognizing the financial demands placed on its membership. However, there is a need to ensure that the Lambda Letters membership continues to grow over the long term and that those mem-

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Lambda Letters Progress Report

Letters Collected

April, 1998	11,698 letters
In all of 1998	35,183 letters

Dollars Spent

April, 1998	$1,021
In all of 1998	$4,953

Can You Help?

Please support the very important work of the Lambda Letters Project with your contributions.

Lambda Letters Project

Statement of Purpose

To promote people of color, feminist, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and HIV/AIDS status advocacy, and to bring people of color, women, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgendered persons, and persons affected by or living with HIV/AIDS into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all the privileges and responsibilities thereof.

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Publication of the name of any person or organization in articles or advertising in the Lambda Letters Project newsletter is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization.

Confidentiality

The Lambda Letters Project does not sell or loan its mailing list to anyone. We give no information about who is, or is not, a member of the Project. We do, occasionally, send mailings on behalf of other worthwhile organizations, but this is done by our own volunteers so that no other organization has the opportunity to copy our mailing lists.

The Lambda Letters Newsletter is published monthly except in December by the Lambda Letters Project Inc.,
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Women's Issue

Controlling Breast Cancer

by Carla Leek

The month's issue is aimed at A.B. 2592, which we supported in April. This bill, introduced by Assemblymember Howard Wayne (D–San Diego), expands the services provided under California's Breast Cancer Control Program to include the treatment of breast cancer. Previously, the program has primarily provided early breast cancer detection services. The bill passed the Assembly on May 27th, and is now in the Senate. Along the way, the bill has been amended from its earlier form. The big change is that Wayne's original appropriation of $20 million to the Breast Cancer Control Program has been eliminated.

Although the loss of funds related to breast cancer is unfortunate, this change does increase the chances that A.B. 2592 will make it to the governor's desk. The elimination of the appropriation clause means that the bill only needs a majority to pass, not the two-thirds vote required for appropriations bills. The substance of the bill, adding treatment to the Breast Cancer Control Program, including "lumpectomy, mastectomy, chemotherapy, hormone therapy, radiotherapy, reconstructive surgery, and breast implant surgery," remains intact.

Among the women's health bills in this session, A.B. 2592 looks like one of the best. Please help it pass the Senate by signing the enclosed sample letter. Feel free to add personal notes of your own!

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People of Color Issue

Supporting Better Minority Health Care

by Boyce Hinman

Please write to your member of the House of Representatives urging him or her to support H.R. 1895. This important bill, introduced by Representative Louis Stokes (D–Ohio), reauthorizes a number of programs that are vital to the health of people of color in this country.

Here is why this bill is no important. Not long into the next century, people of color will be nearly 50 percent of our nation's population. In recent years, there have been marvelous advances in medicine, yet minorities have neither fully nor equally benefited from these advances. People of color suffer from disproportionately higher rates of some cancers, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and strokes, chemical dependency, accidents, infant mortality, and AIDS. In fact, it is estimated that 70,000 fewer people of color would die each year if their life expectancies and death rates were the same as whites. People of color also have difficulty getting quality health care.

Few white health professionals choose to serve people of color or to work in the inner cities where many of our minority citizens live. Physicians of color are more likely to do so, yet they are vastly under-represented among health care professionals. We are not training enough people of color in the health care professions.

H.R. 1895 deals with this problem by reauthorizing a number of programs originally established by Congress in 1990. The bill provides loans, scholarships, and fellowships to enable disadvantaged persons to train in the health care professions. The bill also provides financial assistance to schools with a history of educating minorities in the health care professions. Renewed funding is also provided to the office of research on minority health of the National Institutes of Health. This office supports groundbreaking research on minority health issues. All of these important programs were established by Congress in 1990. However, they will be terminated unless they are reauthorized this year. That's what H.R. 1895 does and it deserves our support.

Hate Crime Laws

by Hilary Cook

Hooray! A.B. 1999 by Sheila Kuehl (D–Encino), which strengthens California's hate crimes laws—protecting transgendered people—passed the Assembly with a 48–11 vote and has moved on to the Senate.

Successful hate crime prosecutions in San Francisco and Los Angeles have shown that transgendered people are already covered under the existing categories of gender and sexual orientation. However, research by Kuehl's office found that most district attorneys do not prosecute hate crimes when the victim is transgendered. Meanwhile the National Crime Victim Survey found that the rate of attempted rape against transgendered people was 2.7 percent, while the rate of assault was 16 percent.

Hate crimes are acts of violence or terrorism directed at individuals because of their perceived association with a group or community. Hate crimes impact the community as well as the victims themselves. While each crime is a personal tragedy for the victims, it is also an attempt to intimidate a larger group or community. This is why the law provides penalty enhancements for hate-motivated crimes.

A.B. 1999 clarifies some inconsistent sections in hate crime legislation by adding the word *gender* to some places where it was inadvertently left out. It defines gender broadly as "a person's actual or perceived sex, and includes a person's identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not that identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's sex at birth." It requires that hate crimes based on gender be tracked under the Hate Violence Reporting Act. Gathering information on when, where, and how often these crimes happen helps law enforcement agencies develop prevention strategies. Any woman who has been targeted because of her short hair, or any man who has been called a sissy, knows that it doesn't take much to step far outside conventional norms and become a potential target. A.B. 1999 makes it clear that crimes where the perpetrator deems the victim's appearance or behavior to be gender-inappropriate are attacks on our entire community.

HIV Test Results: "No-Name" Public Health Study Proposed

by Eva Lujan

In order to address growing concern among public health officials, Assemblymember Carole Migden (D–San Francisco), has introduced legislation proposing that a study be conducted by the Department of Health Services (DHS). This study would examine the most effective system for reporting HIV testing results using a "unique identifier," rather than by reporting individual names.

This bill provides an alternative to potential legislation considered earlier during this legislative session which would have required reporting of the names of those testing positive for HIV. Migden's bill, A.B. 1663 was successfully passed on the Assembly floor on May 14th by a vote of 76–0. The bill is now scheduled to be heard by the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services in June.

There is growing concern among public health officials regarding the quality of information available to track the rate of HIV infection in the United States. This concern is increasing with the recent success of new drug therapies resulting in a growing number of HIV-positive persons that do not exhibit any of the symptoms of AIDS. This makes tracking systems based upon persons living with AIDS much less effective.

Better tracking of the incidence of HIV infection is needed to target treatments better and for

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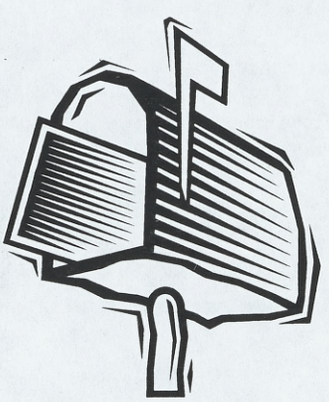

Legislative Update: Part II

This is the second of a series of articles to inform you of the progress of both good and bad bills through our state legislature. We have been successful in moving many of the good bills and stopping some of the bad bills. The flow of your letters and e-mail messages to our state legislature has been much greater than usual this year and we think that has something to do with our success in the halls of the state legislature. Thank you for doing your part in our community's effort.

Typically each bill is voted on by two committees in the state assembly and two in the state senate before it is sent to the governor for signature or veto. The first committee is a policy committee which, in theory, determines whether the bill makes sense from a policy viewpoint. The second committee is an appropriations committee which is supposed to determine if the expenditures are reasonable and that the money for the bill is available.

In May the bills started hitting legislative deadlines. According to the rules of the legislature, each bill must be approved by the policy committee in its house of origin no later than May 15th. For example, bills which originate in the Assembly must be approved by the appropriate Assembly policy committee by that date. Bills must be approved by the Appropriations Committee no later than May 22nd. Bills must be approved by the full house in which they originated, and go to the other house no later than May 29th. There are always exceptions, but generally any bill that fails to gain approval by these deadlines is dead. (Note: This article was written on May 22nd, before two of the deadlines.)

On the following pages are some of the bills we have been working on.

Silence is the virtue of fools.
— Francis Bacon (1561-1626)

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HIV/AIDS Issues

A.B. 1663 (Carole Migden, D–San Francisco)
Purpose: To require the state to conduct studies of unique identifier systems of tracking the spread of HIV, that do not require the reporting of the names of people who test positive for HIV.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly. Now in the Senate.

A.B. 2287 (Steve Baldwin, R–La Mesa)
Purpose: To criminalize the "intentional" transmission of HIV through unprotected sex.
LLP Position: Oppose.
Status: Failed in the Assembly Public Safety Committee.

A.B. 2737 (Dion Aroner, D–Oakland)
Purpose: To create the Supportive Housing Fund to provide housing for homeless and other very low income and disabled persons, including those with AIDS.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the Assembly floor.

A.B. 2762 (Dion Aroner, D–Oakland)
Purpose: To require the state to request a waiver from the federal government to allow the state to use Medi-Cal funds to care for poor HIV-positive people who do not have full-blown AIDS. Currently they must have full blown AIDS to receive Medi-Cal benefits.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the Assembly floor.

S.B. 705 (Richard Rainey, R–Walnut Creek)
Purpose: To criminalize the "intentional" transmission of HIV through unprotected sex.
LLP Position: Oppose.
Status: Has passed the Senate and all Assembly committees. Is in the inactive file on the Assembly floor. Author is discussing amendments to it to get enough votes for passage.

L/G/B/T Issues

A.B. 1059 (Carole Migden, D–San Francisco)
Purpose: To require that all health insurance com-

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Legislative Update

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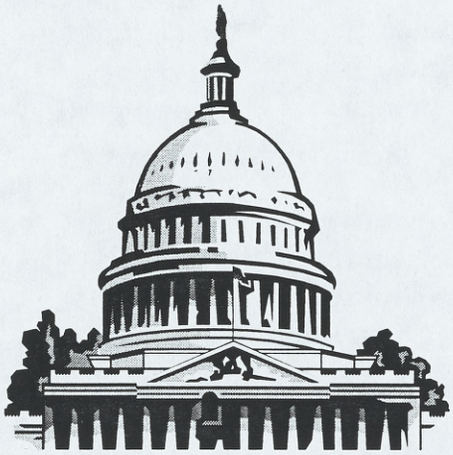
panies that offer policies covering employees and their spouses, also offer coverage for employees and their domestic partners. Does not require employers to buy coverage for their employee's domestic partners.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed both houses of the Legislature. Pending on the Assembly floor for the Assembly to vote on changes make to the bill in the Senate.

A.B. 1999 (Sheila Kuehl, D–Encino)
Purpose: To amend the states Hate Crimes Statistics Act by adding gender and defining gender to include transgendered people. Provides stiffer penalties for hate motivated crimes based on gender and gender identity. Requires the counting and reporting of such hate crimes.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the Assembly floor.



A.B. 2156 (Fred Keeley, D–Santa Cruz)
Purpose: To strengthen the California Labor Code sections that prohibit sexual orientation–based employment discrimination. Increases the deadline for filing a complaint from 30 days to a year. Requires employers to post notices that sexual orientation based employment discrimination is illegal and to display list of offices at which complaints may be filed.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the Assembly floor.

S.B. 1506 (Tom Hayden, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To require employers to allow their employees to take unpaid medical leave to care for domestic partners and others who depend on the employee for care.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Scheduled for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on May 27th, after the deadline for this article.

People of Color Issues

A.C.A. 3 (Kevin Murray, D–Culver City)
Purpose: To allow the state to take any measures necessary to enhance equal opportunity in California.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: In Assembly Judiciary Committee. No date set for hearing yet. Note: A.C.A. 3 is a proposed constitutional amendment. Constitutional amendments do not have to meet the deadlines discussed above.

A.B. 1532 (Kevin Shelley, D–San Francisco)
Purpose: To authorize state grants to cities and counties to establish interpreter programs to assist the police in serving non-English speaking crime victims.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly. Assigned to the Senate Public Safety Committee.

A.B. 1784 (Joe Baca, D–San Bernardino)
Purpose: To provide $10 million to fund substance abuse programs for adolescents in the 10 counties with the most at risk adolescents.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the floor of the Assembly.

A.B. 2031 (Gilbert Cedillo, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To prevent the governor from denying access of legal resident aliens to many state funded health programs for the poor.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the floor of the Assembly.

Continued on page 7

Deborah A. Brooks
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Legislative Update

Continued from page 6

S.B. 1500 (Richard Polanco, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To outlaw the manufacture, import, sale, possession, or loaning of unsafe guns.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Senate. Now in the Assembly.

Women's Issues

A.B. 499 (Sheila Kuehl, D–Encino)
Purpose: To systematize and strengthen the State Education Code, particularly as it relates to discrimination, including sex discrimination.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed Assembly. Stuck in the Senate Education Committee because of opposition from the governor. Assemblymember Kuehl is seeking a compromise with the governor.

A. B. 1112 (Bob Hertzberg, D–Van Nuys)
Purpose: To require HMOs and insurance providers to cover the cost of contraceptives.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed Assembly and passed the Senate Insurance Committee. Pending in Senate Appropriations Committee.

A.B. 1926 (Scott Wildman, D–Glendale)
Purpose: To limit the ability of defense lawyers to put rape victims on trial by claiming that the victim's clothing was an invitation to have sex.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed the Assembly. Now is in Senate.

A.B. 2592 (Howard Wayne, D–San Diego)
Purpose: To use tobacco taxes to fund prevention and treatment of breast cancer, with special emphasis on low income, Native American, and minority women.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Pending on the Assembly floor.

A.B. 2717 (Elaine Alquist, D–Santa Clara)
Purpose: To increase tobacco taxes and use the taxes to establish the breast cancer and prostate cancer prevention fund.
LLP Position: Support.
Status: Died in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee.

San Diego Pride Festival Volunteers Needed

Lambda Letters will have a booth at the San Diego Pride Festival on July 25th and 26th. The booth will be run by our two San Diego–based board members, Jan Hanson and Lynn Dobbs. However they need other volunteers to help. Volunteers can urge passersby to sign our letters, count the letters gathered and prepare them for mailing, or solicit new members for Lambda Letters. Help for part or all of the day would be much appreciated. Can you help? If so, please call Jan or Lynn at (619) 275-5343.

Become an Advocate!

Become our people of color advocate and help us choose one subject a month (usually a piece of legislation) that is of concern to the people of color community. You'll spend only about 10–12 hours a month researching possible subjects and composing letters and articles. Do you have Internet access? Lambda Letters can provide leads on sources of information and advice on composing letters and articles. This exciting position enables you to have a direct impact on legislation that affects our daily lives.

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Renewed Commitment

Continued from page 1

requiring names reporting of HIV-positive people, weakening or eliminating our protections against discrimination, and so on. Thomas Jefferson's warning on the need for vigilance has never been truer.

The loss of LIFE Lobby is particularly painful because we have depended upon them to be our vigilant eyes and ears on the legislature. For the most part, they tracked the bills of importance to our community and helped us decide whether to support or oppose those bills. Now we must develop the capacity to do those things on our own. There are Internet sites at which we can find the necessary information, but we need volunteers with Internet access to do the research. If you are willing, we can show you how.

With the loss of LIFE Lobby, Lambda Letters is now the only statewide organization lobbying on behalf of our community. Our operation is expanding rapidly. Last year we delivered about 47,000 letters and message to elected officials on the issues we care about. In just the first four months of this year we have already delivered over 35,000 messages. We may well reach 90,000 by year's end.

Obviously, that kind of effort needs many volunteers and significant contributions to cover our expenses. Please review the following list of volunteer opportunities. Can you become a Lambda Letters volunteer? If not, can you make a financial contribution to the Project? Help Lambda Letters remain vigilant for our community. Please donate your time or money to make that possible.

- **Board Members:** Meet four Saturdays a year in Sacramento (we pay for transportation) to make policy decisions and govern the Project. Spend an average of ten hours per month in one or more of the following activities: fund-raising, public relations, recruitment of volunteer staff and Board members, or staff support (e.g., clerical work, staffing pride festival booths, managing our Web page, and so on).
- **Fund Raisers:** Plan and or carry out fund-raising events in your own city. Work within or lead a fund-raising committee in your area. May sell promotional materials to support Lambda Letters. Sell advertising space in the Lambda Letters newsletter.
- **Internet Surfers:** Visit specific Internet sites to find legislation of concern to our community. Prepare a list and description of the legislation found for use by our legislative advocates. Training can be provided to volunteers.
- **Legislative Advocates:** Write one article and sample letter per month on one of the four subject areas we cover each month. Backup people are needed in all four areas. A principal advocate is badly needed in the area of issues of concern to people of color.
- **Pride Festival Volunteers:** Help staff booths at pride festivals in Chico, Palm Springs, Sacramento, and San Diego. Urge passersby to sign our letters or count the letters gathered and prepare them for mailing. Solicit new members.
- **Monthly Letter Assemblers:** Spend one evening a month preparing our letters and newsletters for mailing to our members.

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Accomplishments So Far, Challenges Ahead

At the May 9th annual meeting of the Lambda Letters Project, administrator Boyce Hinman gave a "State of the Project" report that highlighted both how far the organization had come and how much work and planning still remain.

"In many ways, Lambda Letters is in its best shape ever," according to Hinman.

The good news includes a growing number of talented individuals serving on the board of directors; an ending fiscal year bank balance higher than ever before; over 47,000 letters and messages collected and delivered to elected officials in 1997 and already approximately 33,000 during the first four months of this year; a beautiful, professional Web page designed and maintained by board member Lynn Dobbs; and an e-mail alert system that is building our reputation and allowing many more people to be involved in the Project's "action alerts."

These are some of the main challenges now facing the Project:

- The closing down of LIFE Lobby and the resulting need for new ways to track bills in the legislative process
- The recognition that in a couple of years, following Hinman's retirement, a new administrator will have to be hired and probably paid
- The necessity of having backup people to take on any of several key tasks, such as editing and creating the newsletter, managing the Web site, and producing the monthly letters.

Now, more than ever, the Project is a powerful tool for our community's welfare. Hinman finished by pointing out that the Project must "take seriously the need to make the transition from Lambda Letters being a nice hobby for a group of friends to being the fully professional organization needed by the community."

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Membership Dues

Continued from page 1

bers continue to receive the level of service they currently expect.

Dues levels were set at $35 per year for regular members and $20 per year for students and others living on a restricted income.

"With the demise of LIFE Lobby, Lambda Letters becomes the *only* statewide advocacy effort representing the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered communities. This means that the Project will need to expand its activities to fill the void caused by the loss of LIFE Lobby," said Hinman.

"Lambda Letters will need to increase its face-to-face lobbying efforts with the state legislature, along with tracking legislation affecting the l/g/b/t community. In the past, we relied on LIFE Lobby to keep us informed of legislation and their lobbying efforts. We will need to become more self-reliant in the future," he said.

The Project will continue to rely on its members and supporters from the business community for contributions above the annual dues level. Boyce acknowledged, "without the generous support of our major donors, Lambda Letters simply would not have the funds to provide services to its membership, even with the newly-adopted dues structure."

We recognize the concern that suggested dues may cause to our members. If you have questions, or would like to provide input to the Project, please contact us at the address on the front of this newsletter.

HIV Test Results

Continued from page 4

education resources to be most effective.

Given insufficient information regarding the spread of HIV, there is a need to identify new cases while strictly maintaining the confidentiality or anonymity of those persons being tested. It is generally accepted that requiring the reporting of the names of those testing positive raises real concerns about the future confidentiality of those persons' names. Given the potential for mistreatment of those known to be infected with HIV, reporting of names would most likely be a significant disincentive to be tested.

A.B. 1663 instructs the DHS to study alternatives to best accomplish the objective of gathering badly needed epidemiological data confidentially of those persons being tested. Your support of this bill is needed to assure that it is passed by the Senate and signed into law by the Governor Wilson.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a sample letter that you can use to express your support of this bill to a member of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. You may either use the sample letter to write your own individualized letter (most effective), or you can simply sign the sample letter. Either way, return your letter to us and we will assure it is delivered to the appropriate person.

If you would like to review the text of the bill, and have access to the World Wide Web, please visit our home page at www.lambdaletters.org.

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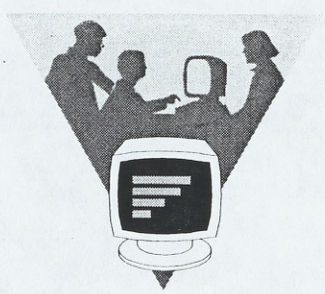


We've mailed way over 200,000 letters since 1988!

Needle Exchange: The Outrage

In mid-April, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala announced that the Clinton administration will not be using federal funds to support clean needle exchange programs, even though such programs have been found to slow the spread of AIDS and do not encourage the use of illicit drugs. On April 29th, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to make the ban on federal funds for needle exchange permanent. The bill (H.R. 3717) was sent to the Senate, which has not acted on it yet.

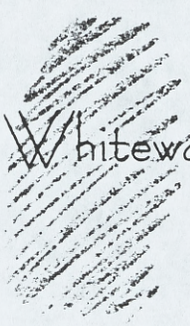
At present, the president can decree the use of federal funds for needle exchange programs by executive order. If H.R. 3717 passes the Senate and is not vetoed by the Clinton, then he—and all future presidents—will be barred from funding clean needle exchange.

The House passed H.R. 3717 by a vote of 287 in favor and 140 against the bill. In the California delegation, 24 voted yes and 27 voted no, with one abstention. Twenty-four of the yes votes came from Republicans and three came from Democrats. Of the no votes, 25 came from Democrats and two came from Republicans. One Democrat, Julian Dixon, abstained or was absent.

Below is a list of representatives from California and how they voted. Names in bold are those three Democrats and two Republicans who voted against the others in their party.

Xavier Becerra (D)	No
Howard Berman (D)	No
George Brown (D)	No
Lois Capps (D)	No
Gary Condit (D)	**Yes**
Julian Dixon (D)	Abstain
Calvin Dooley (D)	No
Anna Eshoo (D)	No
Sam Farr (D)	No
Vic Fazio (D)	No
Bob Filner (D)	No
Jane Harman (D)	No
Tom Lantos (D)	No
Zoe Lofgren (D)	No
Matthew Martinez (D)	No
Robert Matsui (D)	No
Juanita Millender-McDonald (D)	No
George Miller (D)	No
Nancy Pelosi (D)	No
Lucille Roybal-Allard (D)	No
Loretta Sanchez (D)	**Yes**
Brad Sherman (D)	No
Fortney Stark (D)	No
Ellen Tauscher (D)	**Yes**
Esteban Torres (D)	No
Maxine Waters (D)	No
Henry Waxman (D)	No
Lynn Woolsey (D)	No
Brian Bilbray (R)	Yes
Mary Bono (R)	Yes
Ken Calvert (R)	Yes
Tom Campbell (R)	**No**
Christopher Cox (R)	Yes
Randy Cunningham (R)	Yes
John Doolittle (R)	Yes
David Drier (R)	Yes
Elton Gallegly (R)	Yes
Wally Herger (R)	Yes
Steve Horn (R)	Yes
Duncan Hunter (R)	Yes
Jay Kim (R)	Yes
Jerry Lewis (R)	**No**
Howard McKeon (R)	Yes
Ron Packard (R)	Yes
Richard Pombo (R)	Yes
George Radanovich (R)	Yes
Frank Riggs (R)	Yes
James Rogan (R)	Yes
Dana Rohrabacher (R)	Yes
Edward Royce (R)	Yes
Bill Thomas (R)	Yes

Please call or e-mail President Clinton and tell him he must veto any bill that bans the use of federal funds for needle exchange. The president's phone number is (202) 456-1111 and his e-mail address is president@whitehouse.gov.



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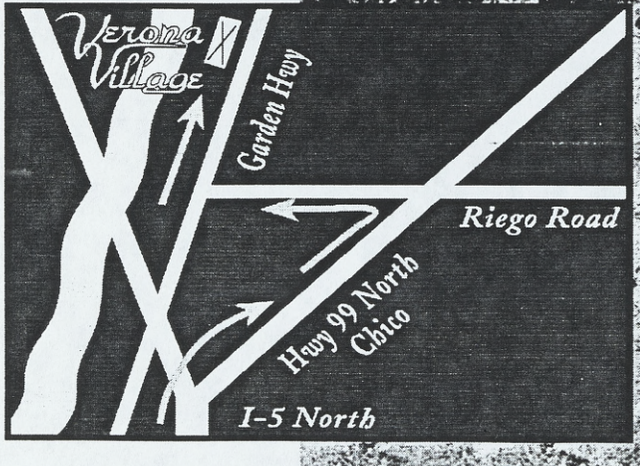

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